

**The Situation.**  
The tenacity with which GRANT holds to his position on the railroad, South of Petersburg, is something for which we ourselves are unable to account, inasmuch as we can expect to realize no great or immediate advantage from so doing. With the Virginia Central Railroad bringing in supplies from one direction, and the Danville Road open in the other direction, neither the army nor the people at Richmond and Petersburg are at all dependent upon the Petersburg and Weldon Road for their supplies.

Still, we suppose GRANT must have some object in retaining so large a portion of his force in the vicinity of Petersburg, unmoved by the Confederate operations in the Valley, or demonstrations, against Washington City, or the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania. Evidently it is General Lee's policy to transfer the theatre of the war from the James to the Potomac. To this his movements would seem to point, especially the operations under EARLY. But so far his manoeuvres have not resulted in dislodging the enemy from his position near the Confederate Capital, and still GRANT keeps "pegging away" to the serious inconvenience of the people of Richmond and Petersburg, especially the latter.

Firmness of purpose, amounting to obstinacy, is one of GRANT's characteristics, and he may yet flatter himself with the hope of being able to carry out his plans against the Confederate Capital, but it would seem that a point had almost been reached where even his obstinacy would be forced to succumb to the force of circumstances, and he, like McCLELLAN, find it convenient to "change his base." We think that spite of all that GRANT can do, the Virginia campaign of 1864 will close on the Potomac, and not on the James.

It would seem that our troops succeeded in capturing Memphis, but the whole affair, or at least the accounts of the whole affair, are confused in the extreme, and even contradictory. The question is—do we hold the city and the fortifications, and can we hold them for any considerable time? In plain terms, can our possession of Memphis be made available to enable our troops to cross from the other side of the Mississippi, or any part of them? Of course the mere capture of the city by a cavalry force, without the ability to retain permanent possession, or secure ulterior advantages, would be a matter of comparatively small importance. To know what value to attach to the capture of Memphis we must know the circumstances connected with that event. We may fairly assume, however, that the raiding expeditions which have been so constantly issuing out of Memphis, have for the time being, been broken up, and that our flanks in Georgia and Alabama will be comparatively safe for some time to come.

We can make out no clear idea of the state of things in and around Atlanta. Raids seem to be the order of the day. What progress General WHEELER is making in SHERMAN's rear we are unable to discover. JOHN MORGAN, who was last heard of in East Tennessee, may be able to do something towards disarranging SHERMAN's plans, though how, does not yet appear. We hear little from Mobile, and look for nothing very stirring or decisive in that quarter within the present or next month. Fort Morgan is a strong work, and ought to hold out a good while against the fleets. If the enemy has a strong land force it may change the whole aspect of affairs, but we do not think he has such force disposable for the purpose of attacking Mobile, or the forts in its vicinity.

P. S. It will be seen that a telegram, received since the above was in type, reports Fort Morgan in the hands of the enemy, but without stating how it passed into their hands. Things may be all right and honorable about the mouth of Mobile Bay; but again, they may not. It will take time to clear up the mystery that surrounds the whole affair.

The war between Germany and Denmark has closed, as everybody felt that it must close, by Denmark yielding to the demands of her gigantic adversaries. She gives up the whole matter in dispute. The duchies of Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg are ceded to Austria and Prussia, and even Jutland, the main continental portion of Denmark proper, is occupied until the arrangements are completed.

Denmark, unfortunately for herself, was encouraged to enter upon and persevere in the unequal contest by the hope of foreign assistance. She looked, and thought she had a right to look, to England for moral and physical aid. England, through Lord Russell, had told Denmark that she was right, and she (England) remonstrated quite strongly with the German powers. She invited a Conference which never effected anything, and having thus paddled around the question until Denmark found herself helpless in the hands of her enemies, the very coolly turned her back and told her to help herself the best way she could. The thing was not right, nor was England's position very commanding, but then on the other hand England was making money, and that was a thing not to be risked.

There are some who think English recognition would be a good deal exercised over a gentleman of the above name, from that State, who is reported to have made use of very anti-patriotic expressions at Hamilton, Bermuda, and also to have represented himself as a commissioner from the State of Georgia to France.

We recollect when Mr. BAYLON sailed from this port for Bermuda, and he certainly did not then hold out the idea that he held any other than a commercial mission, that his object was to initiate movements that might result in direct commercial intercourse between Europe and the South, as soon as the war should be over.

We speak merely from what Mr. BAYLON remarked in conversation on some occasions; when he dropped into our office to see some Georgia papers. He must have had credentials of some kind, otherwise we question if he could have gone out here without difficulty, as he certainly did. We think he went out in one of the Georgia steamers, or those known as such—the Lillian or Florio—but of this we are by no means certain.

We saw Thursday a copy of Frank Leslie of some time in July. Among its illustrations is a view of a council of war held by GRANT at Massaponax Church, Virginia. The picture purports to be from a photograph, and we suppose it is. There are present GRANT, MEADE, WARREN, BURNESIDE, SHERIDAN and others. Utters himself being a stout man, not tall, with a very old looking hat and a most formidable cigar. The cigar seems to be his inevitable accompaniment. MEADE looks taller and thinner, but they are all a tolerably hard-looking set. Daguerotypes, however, do not flatter, and a summer campaign in Spotsylvania county does not tend to daunt them. GRANT holds on to his cigar quite resolutely.

## The Spirit of the Women.

A gentleman of this place recently writing to his wife, now in Richmond county, alluded to the calling out of the reserves and detailed men, and expressed his own determination, although exempt, and no longer young, to turn out with his musket on any emergency threatening the place. The lady in reply says that she hopes the necessity may not arise at this point, but should it do so, she adds "I don't want you to shrink from duty. It would be far better to be killed in battle than to be called a coward. Should there be an attack, you had better send for Buddy. [their son] had at work at the shops of the W. C. & R. R. Co. Every little is a help in time of need. If I was not so much afraid of a gun I would be willing to go too. I am afraid our army is about to be overwhelmed in Virginia for want of men. If all the deserters would go back they would make an army themselves." The spirit of the women of the country really sustains and buoy up that of the men, and to that spirit the country will be largely indebted for its independence.

## Fort Sumter.

Colonel Jos. G. TORREY, Chief Engineer U. S. Army, in making his report to Mr. MARCY, then Secretary of War, dated Washington, 1st November, 1845, says of Fort Sumter:

"The important position occupied by this work, and the great influence which it will have in the defence of Charleston harbor, make it desirable to push the construction forward to completion with as little delay as practicable."

Col. TORREY—late General, but now dead—seems to have had the gift of prescience in regard to Sumter.

If the Yankees can capture the Tallahassee they will do so, as the whole coast is teeming with war steamers sent out in pursuit of her; yes, verily, former blockade-runners like the Tristram Shandy are armed and sent to join in the pursuit. The Tristram Shandy will not be likely to come up with the Tallahassee—not much.

The difficulty we apprehend is in the matter of coal. The great speed of the Tallahassee is due, among other things, to her rapid production of steam. She has a large fire surface, and consumes coal pretty rapidly, we are told. The English and French authorities are certainly less scrupulous to our cruisers now than formerly, and there may be more difficulty about obtaining coal, or making the necessary repairs.

The following vessels are reported in pursuit of the Tallahassee:—The Junata, Saquehannah, Eolas Pontoon, Dumbarton, Tristram Shandy, Mocassin, Aster, Xantic, R. R. Cuyler, Grand Gulf, Dacotah, and San Jacinto. Some of these vessels are fast, the majority are not so.

THE SOUTHERN SOLDIER'S FAIRER BONGERS. Containing Medical and Patriotic Recipes. (Wholly Original.) Applicable to the Present War. Mobile, Ala. W. F. WISLEY, No. 38, St. Michael Street, 1864.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL. Being a Selection of Favorite Hymns for Sunday Schools, Compiled and Arranged by HENRY B. PRASER. Mobile, Ala. Printed and Published by W. F. WISLEY, 1864.

The first of these publications contains 104 pages, and some sixty songs, or at least "metrical effusions of Southern genius," tolerably well printed, and of different degrees of excellence. By the way, we miss "Fort Pillow," by JAMES R. RANDALL, the author of "My Maryland," and "Farewell to Louisiana," by Major DAVID POSTER, formerly of the New Orleans Delta, which, as poems, at least, are far superior to the average of the pieces published in this or similar publications. Possibly our attention is called to the absence of the poems in question from the fact of their having originally appeared in our columns.

"The Sunday School" is a collection of very unequal character, as such things are apt to be. Some of the hymns are poetry, and some are hardly anything worth naming. Still, this collection, we suppose, is equal to the average.

## Army Correspondence of the Journal.

Our Fourth Texas-Potomac Campaign.

BRAS FORT, WISCONSIN, Y. A., August 11th, 1864.

The latitude which the Shenandoah Valley affords for armies for manoeuvring is so extensive, that an active campaign sometimes degenerates into a game of hide-and-seek, as in the case of the present one. We were quietly enjoying the pastime of tearing up the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for the 26th, 27th, and 28th days of July, at Martinsburg, and after resting leisurely several days, we moved on towards Falling Water, and camped in the woods between the last named place and the Potomac, and felt around with our cavalry on the other side of the river for the purpose of stirring the lion up in his den.

But on the 5th day of August we commenced in real earnest another invasion of the enemy's country, which was our second campaign. Our first campaign was a mere raid on the Shenandoah, and our second was a real campaign. We were ordered to move on towards Falling Water, and camped in the woods between the last named place and the Potomac, and felt around with our cavalry on the other side of the river for the purpose of stirring the lion up in his den.

The enemy had completely "drawn in his horns," so that no vestige of his army could be found by our indefatigable Mosby, and the general impression was that he was making his way towards Washington to reinforce Grant. This being the disposition of the enemy, their whole country would be left open to us to penetrate to its very heart.

We crossed the Potomac at the small town of Williamsport, a depot on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, of about 3,000 inhabitants. The river was at its very lowest, and the fording easy and pleasant. We pursued the Boonville road a short distance, passing en route St. James College, encamped near the latter institution. Many availed themselves of visiting their alma mater. Some of our approach. The Rev. Dr. Kerfoot, President of the college, remained, the undersigned, victim of retaliation, and did the honors of his house to quite a table-full of Rebels of all ranks.

It became the duty of one of these officers (of high rank) to issue the order for the Rev. Dr. Kerfoot, while partaking of the hospitality of his board.

The Rev. Dr. Kerfoot, who was arrested several months ago and held as a hostage for a Yankee who afterwards died, and the worthy man is a prisoner. Early he quite a keen perception of the quality and quantity of retaliation it takes to overcome the stubborn Yankees, and arrested the Rev. Dr. Kerfoot as a hostage for Dr. Boyd, giving him twenty days to make arrangements.

On the 5th day of August our headquarters were returned to Williamsport to garrison the town. It was our fortune to be encamped upon the Conococheague Creek, about two miles from where it enters into the Potomac, which place we enjoyed the country hospitality of Maryland, and obtained an insight into the politics of the Yankee nation. There seems to be a determination upon the part of some of the people of Maryland, to throw out the restraints which have been placed upon the ballot box. They have but one will, and they have the power. We heard a number of Democrats say that they had not been allowed to vote since they cast their vote for Breckinridge. As soon as it is possible to vote, they will vote for Lincoln, and take him to vote an anti-Administration ticket, a soldier informed him he can't vote. Now we hope they will vote regardless of every town in the North had the Yankee. The truth is, of the wishes and desires of the people of Maryland, we have no idea. 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